



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

edh

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,387	01/23/2002	Matthias Muth	DE 010023	7668
24737	7590	06/29/2005	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			FLANAGAN, KRISTA M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/055,387	MUTH, MATTHIAS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Krista M. Flanagan	2631	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed on the 21 May 2002 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), which requires the following: (1) a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office; (2) U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications listed in a section separately from citations of other documents; (3) the application number of the application in which the information disclosure statement is being submitted on each page of the list; (4) a column that provides a blank space next to each document to be considered, for the examiner's initials; and (5) a heading that clearly indicates that the list is an information disclosure statement. The information disclosure statement has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Specification

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the word "Figure" needs to be removed from the bottom. The abstract also contains legal phraseology, which needs to be removed. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
3. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

The abstract of the disclosure does not commence on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52(b)(4). A new abstract of the disclosure is required and must be presented on a separate sheet, apart from any other text.

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: Please define “CAN” on page 1, paragraph 3. It is the examiner’s opinion that “signalize/signalizes/signalized” should be changed to –signal/signals/signaled—throughout the specification and the claims.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 4,539,677 to Lo.

6. Regarding claim 1, Lo discloses a transceiver for a bus (see column 2, lines 6-10) in which the transceiver is connected to a controller (See column 2, lines 16-23), which is coupled to and manages a data bus (See figure 5 and column 2, lines 6-10). The transceiver comprises a control (See column 2, lines 16-23 and lines 24-33), which supplies a signal when they recognize that the data bus lines are active, and when the receiving line simultaneously signals an inactive bus having the effect that the transceiver no longer acts actively on the data bus (See column 2, lines 34-52).

7. Regarding claim 2, Lo discloses a transceiver for a bus (see column 2, lines 6-10) in which the transceiver is connected to a controller (See column 2, lines 16-23), which is coupled to and manages a data bus. The transceiver comprises a control that comprises a timer circuit which triggers a signal when the transmission line is active for a longer period than a

predetermined time interval the signal having the effect that the transceiver no longer acts actively on the data bus, where the signal is cancelled only when the transmission line signals an inactive bus and the receiving line signals an active bus (See column 2, lines 6-52).

8. Regarding claim 3, which inherits all of the limitations of claim 1, Lo discloses a transceiver (see column 2, lines 6-10), characterized in that the control (See column 2, lines 16-23 and lines 24-33) switches a signal when the transmission line signals an inactive bus and the receiving line signals an active bus (See column 2, lines 34-52).

9. Regarding claim 4, which inherits all of the limitations of claim 1, Lo discloses a transceiver (see column 2, lines 6-10), characterized in that the control signal (See column 2, lines 16-23 and lines 24-33) switches a bus transmission stage in the transceiver to the inactive state (See column 7, line 49 - column 8, line 4).

10. Regarding claim 5, which inherits all of the limitations of claim 1, Lo discloses a transceiver (see column 2, lines 6-10), characterized in that the control signal (See column 2, lines 16-23 and lines 24-33) is signaled to the exterior by means of an error line, particularly to an application having priority over a controller (See column 7, line 49 – column 8, line 4).

11. Regarding claim 6, which inherits all of the limitations of claim 1, Lo discloses a transceiver (see column 2, lines 6-10), characterized in that a control line is provided that resets the control and thus switches the control signal to the inactive state (See column 7, line 49 – column 8, line 4).

12. Regarding claim 7, which inherits all of the limitations of claim 1, Lo discloses a transceiver (see column 2, lines 6-10), characterized in that the means for control (See column 2, lines 16-23 and lines 24-33) comprises a flip-flop (See figure 6, reference characters 38 and 35 -

Art Unit: 2631

“latch”), which, in the set state, supplies the control signal (See figure 6 and column 6, lines 47-62).

13. Regarding claim 9, which inherits all of the limitations of claim 2, Lo discloses a transceiver (see column 2, lines 6-10), characterized in that the timer circuit in the control sets the flip-flop (See figure 6, reference characters 38 and 35 - “latch”) when the transmission line is active for a longer period than a predetermined time interval (See figure 6 and column 5, line 61 – column 6, line 18).

Allowable Subject Matter

14. Claims 8 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US Patent No. 4,639,933 to Howell et al. discloses a steering logic circuit for a digital data transceiver and US Patent No. 4,837,788 discloses a repeater for extending local area networks.

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Krista M. Flanagan whose telephone number is (571) 272-2203. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mohammad H. Ghayour can be reached on (571) 272-3021. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2631

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

K. Flanagan
20050622


MOHAMMED GHAYOUR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER